Issue 4/2023

Focus on stamps
The Collector's Magazine

Cover image: The border area of the Cantons of St. Gallen, Glarus and Graubünden is the location of one of the most primordial Alpine landscapes in Europe – the Tectonic Arena Sardona, which has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2008. Susanne Elmer Feuz, Chair of the Tectonic Arena Sardona UNESCO World Heritage Association, presents the stamp in the "Typical Swiss countryside" series. (Information on p. 12–13.)

Photo: Adrian Brand

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Dear Reader

Like others in the winter season, I find myself looking back over the year and reflecting. What in particular was on my mind last year? What did I enjoy? For me, friends and family are a source of pleasure all year round – the support they offer and the sense of cohe-sion that brings. "Cohesion" is also the theme of this year's Pro Juventute stamps. I like to surprise friends and family with cheerful winter mail at the end of the year. Especially today, in a world that's predominantly digital, "real" letters are a special treat. I'm confident I won't be the only one impressed by this year's winter designs, with their sweet ice crystals, and the colourful confetti stamps.

I've been part of the Stamps & Philately team at Swiss Post for about a year now. But stamps are nothing new for me: even as a small child, I was interested in these miniature works of art. Together with my father, I used to gaze in wonder at his collection of stamps from faraway countries. As an 8-year-old, I loved being able to impress my classmates with the knowledge that I was familiar with countries like São Tomé and Príncipe. I also started my own stamp collection around that time, inspired by beautiful animal designs and the many stamps with Disney characters from all over the world. So how delighted I was to see Mickey and Minnie immortalized on a Swiss stamp for the first time – and on a topical occasion: Disney is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

At the end of the year, we're also looking forward to the opportunity to present our work at trade fairs and special branches at home and abroad, hopefully inspiring many people. It's always fascinating to see how our Swiss designs go down abroad. Which stamp will be best received?

Whether you'll be using the stamps to frank your festive greetings or looking to complete your collection, I hope you have a lot of fun discovering the contents of this issue.

Wendy Stranges
Stamps & Philately Market Manager

Issuing programme

Issue date: 7 March 2024 / Featured in: Focus on stamps 1/2024

No.	Value	Description
3	3.40	**Special stamps** Special events
	1.00	Thanks
	1.20	Congratulations
	1.20	Comfort
2	2.40	**Special stamps** 175 years Swiss Post
	1.20	+
	1.20	P
1	1.00	**Special stamp** 200 years boat trips on Lake Constance
1	1.20	**Special stamp** 100 years International Chess Federation
1	1.90	**special stamp** First deployment of the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit

No.	Value	Description
9	19.10	**Definitive stamps** Natural patterns
	1.00	Ice
	1.20	Butterfly
	1.40	Seedhead
	1.70	Spiderweb
	1.90	Moss
	2.00	Marble
	2.50	Plant oil
	3.10	Tree bark
	4.30	Sand
5	6.90	**Pre-franked products** Postcards
	1.20	A Mail
	1.00	B Mail
		Covers
	1.00	C5 with/without window
	1.20	C5 with/without window
	2.50	B5 without window

Subject to change.
As at August 2023

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The Post CH Network Ltd General Terms and Conditions for the purchase of stamps and philatelic products form an integral part of individual orders and are tacitly accepted by each customer who places an order. They can be ordered by telephone (+41 848 66 55 44) or by e-mail (stamps@swisspost.ch).
They are also available at swisspost.ch/gtc-phila.

Event calendar

Month	Key	Date	Location	Event
October	TF/E	26–28.10	Ulm, DE	International Stamp Show
November	TF/E	8–10.11	Paris, FR	77th Salon Philatélique d'Automne
	I	9.11		**Issue date**
	SS+	16–18.11	Eschenbach (LU), CH	Stamp Day 2023 Eschenbach
December	TF/E	1–3.12	Verona, IT	Veronafil 2023
	SS	7–8.12	Bern-Bethlehem, CH	Christmas branch

The right to make updates and changes is reserved. The latest version can always be found at swisspost.ch/collecting-stamps.

Key

I	Issue date for stamps/postal stationery
E	Event
FoS	Focus on stamps (The Collector's Magazine)
TF/E	Trade fair/exhibition
SS	Sales stand
SS+	Sales stand with cancellation service

New-look design to discover in the next issue

Change is in the air for our magazine "Focus on stamps". From the next issue, you'll be treated to a new-look magazine with restructured information. More modern, more colourful and more practical – the paper version of your trusty philately magazine has had a facelift!

Drawn by nature

The new "Natural patterns" definitive stamps will be available from the end of November 2023. They depict beautiful aspects of Swiss nature, which often reveal their magic only on closer inspection.

Nature as an artist – that's the concept behind the new definitive stamps. Some patterns drawn by nature have an almost magical appeal, such as the shimmering surface of the water photographed in the Ausliker Ried area at Lake Pfäffikon in the Canton of Zurich. The gossamer-thin streaks on the "Plant oil" design come from wetland plants such as water mint, whose cells contain essential oils. The floating plant oil is broken down by bacteria, turning shades of blue and purple to red and orange. The play of colours is particularly beautiful after rainfall, when rainbow-coloured patterns shaped by currents and wind are formed. But this is no lasting work of art: as the bacteria continues to break down, the film of oil sinks to the bottom of the water. The image on the stamp, for instance, disappeared just two days after the photo was taken.

The countless natural beauties of Switzerland that are worthy of admiration and protection are also often hidden in the details – for example, on the forest floor. If you kneel down and take a very close look at the broom moss, for instance, you'll find a surprise: a tiny dense forest – another fairytale forest within the forest. What else can you see?

The micro-photos invite us to embrace new perspectives, to become curious and to discover the unknown in the known – in a butterfly wing, for example, or in a ball of ice in a stream. If you take the time to observe nature with a careful eye, you will be rewarded with many a marvellous work of art.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Sheet of 50 stamps			
1.00 Ice	A523 361		50.00
1.20 Butterfly	A523 362		60.00
Sheet of 10 stamps			
1.40 Seedhead	A523 363		14.00
1.70 Spiderweb	A523 364		17.00
1.90 Moss	A523 365		19.00
2.00 Marble	A523 366		20.00
2.50 Plant oil	A523 367		25.00
3.10 Tree bark	A523 368		31.00
4.30 Sand	A523 369		43.00
Stamp booklet			
10 "Ice" stamps	A523 300		10.00
10 "Butterfly" stamps	A523 301		12.00

Important note

The "Natural patterns" definitive stamps will be available for delivery from the end of November 2023. Orders for definitive stamps that also contain products from this issue will be sent together from the end of November 2023. If you would like to receive the products in issue 4/23 earlier, please order them separately. A small order surcharge of 9 francs will be charged for orders under 15 francs. Our subscribers will receive delivery of the definitive stamps with issue 1/24, from 29 February 2024 onwards. The supplementary products for the stamp sheets (first-day covers, etc.) will be presented in issue 1/24 on 25 January 2024. You will find information about cancellation orders in PhilaNews 10/23 on 1 October 2023 at **swisspost.ch/stamp-publications**.

"Ice": Balls of ice in a stream, Muttenz BL

"Butterfly": Swallowtail, Muttenz BL

"Seedhead": Goat's beard, Visperterminen VS

"Spiderweb": Uetziker-Ried bei Hombrechtikon ZH

"Moss": Broom moss, Muttenz BL

"Marble": Massa Gorge VS

"Plant oil": Water mint, Ausliker-Ried, Lake Pfäffikon ZH

"Tree bark": Plane tree, Niederuster ZH

"Sand": Rhine Gorge, Versam GR

Technical information	
Sales	Mint stamps Philately/Branches: from end of November 2023 until further notice Philatelic products Philately: from 29.2.2024 until further notice
Validity	Unlimited from 1.1.2024
Printing	Offset, CHF 1.20 Butterfly: 6-colour and Iriodin varnish Other stamps: 5-colour and Iriodin varnish Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	CHF 1.00 Ice: Stamp: 33 × 28 mm, Business sheet: 180 × 380 mm (open), 180 × 95 mm (folded) 10 rows of 5 stamps CHF 1.20 Butterfly: Stamp: 33 × 38 mm, Business sheet: 180 × 500 mm (open), 180 × 125 mm (folded) 10 rows of 5 stamps CHF 1.40 Seedhead, CHF 1.70 Spiderweb, CHF 1.90 Moss, CHF 2.00 Marble, CHF 2.50 Plant oil, CHF 3.10 Tree bark, CHF 4.30 Sand: Stamp: 33 × 28 mm, Business sheet: 82 × 198 mm (open), 82 × 99 mm (folded) 5 rows of 2 stamps Stamp booklet: CHF 1.00 Ice: 183 × 62 mm (open) CHF 1.20 Butterfly: 183 × 84 mm (open)
Paper	White stamp paper , with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm² (sheet) or 220 gm² (stamp booklet)
Perforation	Serpentine cut (4 sides)
Design	Photography: Thomas Ruf, Muttenz (Face values 100, 120, 190) Martin Stünzi, Oberdürnten (Face values 140, 170, 200, 250, 310, 430)

New prices from the beginning of 2024

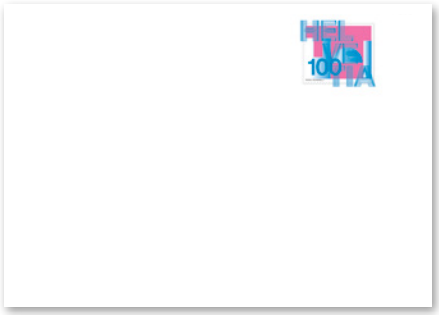
In agreement with the price regulator, Swiss Post will increase its prices, including for letters and parcels, as of 1 January 2024. The price rises are necessary firstly due to the continuing decline in letter volumes and over-the-counter transactions. And, secondly, because current inflation is causing Swiss Post to incur considerable additional costs for energy, transport, materials and salaries. A full summary of changes to prices and products as of 1 January 2024 can be found at **swisspost.ch/offer24**.

Product category	Format/weight	Previous price	New price
A Mail standard	B5 1–100 g	1.10	**1.20**
A Mail midi	B5 101–500 g (previously: 250 g)	1.40	**1.70**
A Mail large	B4 1–500 g	2.10	**2.50**
A Mail large	B4 501–1,000 g	4.10	
B Mail standard	B5 1–100 g	0.90	**1.00**
B Mail midi	B5 101–500 g (previously: 250 g)	1.15	**1.40**
B Mail large	B4 1–500 g	1.85	**2.00**
Standard letter Europe zone 1	B5 1–20 g	1.80	**1.90**
Standard letter Europe zone 1	B5 21–50 g	2.90	**3.10**
Standard letter Europe zone 1	B5 51–100 g	4.00	**4.30**
Large letter Europe zone 1	B4 1–100 g	4.00	
Standard letter other countries	B5 1–20g	2.30	**2.50**

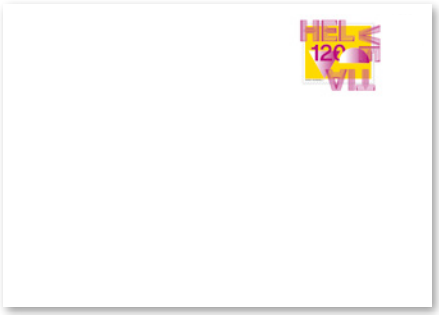
Pre-franked products

The new pre-franked postcards and envelopes, created by visual designer Patrik Ferrarelli, are a love letter to typography.

With the motto "We Love Type", typography is at the heart of the new pre-franked products. For the envelopes, the visual designer combined various fonts and characters one on top of each other, creating a 3D effect. Reduced and simple – ideal for business mail and fans of typography.

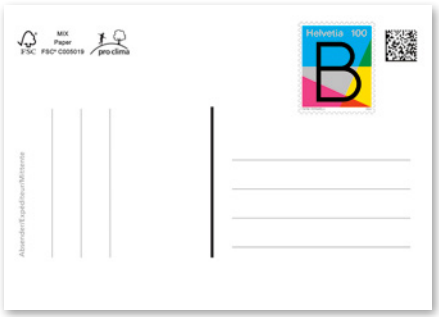


Pre-franked "Hel" cover

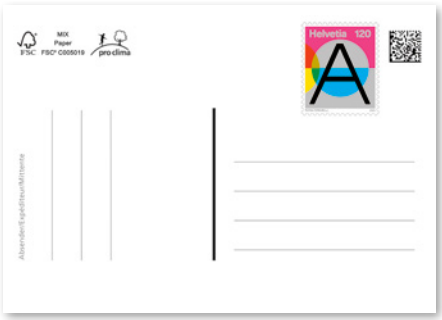


Pre-franked "ve" cover

Pre-franked "tia" cover



Pre-franked "B Mail" postcard



Pre-franked "A Mail" postcard

Important note

The new pre-franked products will be available for delivery from the end of November 2023. Orders that contain products from this issue will be sent together from the end of November 2023. If you would like to receive the products in issue 4/23 earlier, please order them separately. A small order surcharge of 9 francs will be charged for orders under 15 francs. The products are not supplied with the subscription. You will find information about cancellation orders in PhilaNews 10/23 on 1 October 2023 at **swisspost.ch/stamp-publications**.

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Covers			
Pre-franked "Hel" cover, CHF 1.00, (10 pack)			
C5, without window	A516 866		12.00
C5, with window	A516 867		12.00
Pre-franked "ve" cover, CHF 1.20, (10 pack)			
C5, without window	A516 868		14.00
C5, with window	A516 869		14.00
Pre-franked "tia" cover, CHF 2.50, (10 pack)			
B4, without window	A516 870		27.50
Postcards			
Pre-franked "B Mail" postcard (10 pack)	A515 843		12.00
Pre-franked "A Mail" postcard (10 pack)	A515 844		14.00
The new pre-franked products is not supplied with the subscription.			

Technical information	
Sales	Mint pre-franked products Philately/branches: from end of November 2023 until further notice
Validity	Unlimited from 1.1.2024

Postcards with popular stamp designs

Stamps featuring images of animals have been popular for years, whether for collecting or for franking. From this rich pool, 50 different designs have been selected and printed on postcards, producing a unique compilation that comes in a high-quality box and invites you on a journey of discovery through Swiss stamps. This product is published in cooperation with Weber Verlag.

Postcards

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
"Animal designs" postcard pack, 2nd edition			
Set of 50 A6 cards, unfranked	A513 911		39.00
The postcard pack is not supplied with the subscription and is available only in German.			

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

You're spoilt for choice

Which is the most beautiful Swiss stamp of 2023?

Take part and choose your favourite stamp. Voting is open from 28 September to 10 December 2023 at **swisspost.ch/most-beautiful-stamp**. With a bit of luck, you could win one of these great prizes: 10 × one copy of the year book of Swiss stamps 2023 worth 89 francs and a voucher for postshop.ch worth 50 francs.

Snow crystal

Christmas tree

Village

Snowfall

Birds

Christmas – Snow crystals

Warm light shining inside people's homes while cold snow crystals form on the window outside – wintry scenes like this were what inspired the designer of the new Christmas stamps and won over Swiss Post's staff.

If you take a closer look at a snowflake, you will find a unique star to admire. Snow crystals form in cold clouds, where water droplets join together with particles of dust to form a hexagon – a star. The designer dreamt up this ideal Christmas decoration on a winter walk in the forest: "I was watching how the snow crystals covered the fir trees, and I imagined deer, mice and rabbits running around, happily collecting snow crystals to decorate their own Christmas trees."

To balance out the coldness of the season, the Vaudois artist also chose warm and cosy elements for each of the five designs. A concept that won the vote of Swiss Post staff throughout Switzerland.

Sheet of 10 stamps each

Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 2.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last Branches: from 9.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 9.11.2023
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 28×33 mm Sheet: 100×228 mm (open), 100 ×114 mm (folded), 5 rows of 2 stamps
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²
Perforation	Serpentine cut (4 sides)
Design	Aura Naomi Schoppig Ruiz, Bottens

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A489 150	A489 550	8.20
Set of blocks of four	A489 160	A489 560	32.80
Sheet of 10 stamps			
0.90 Snow crystal	A489 361	A489 381	9.00
1.10 Christmas tree	A489 362	A489 382	11.00
1.80 Village	A489 363	A489 383	18.00
2.10 Snowfall	A489 364	A489 384	21.00
2.30 Birds	A489 365	A489 385	23.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A489 580	9.10
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (5 covers)		A489 600	12.70
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (5 covers)		A489 630	37.30
Unstamped cover C6	A489 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A489 640	A489 650	9.00
Card set			
Set of 4 folded cards A6, 4 covers C6 and 4 “Christmas tree” Christmas stamps at CHF 1.10 (not affixed)	A489 951		10.20

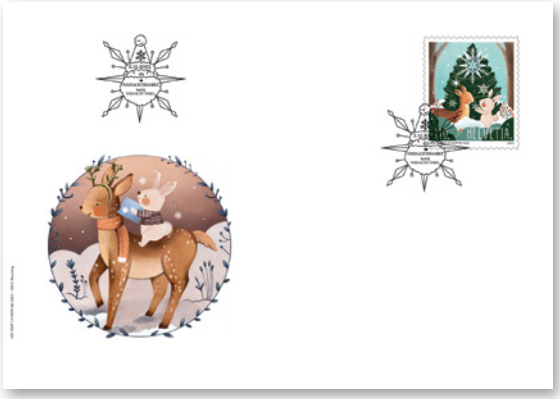
Christmas

Our range of festive envelopes for your Christmas mail!

Wienacht-Tobel

Swiss Post is issuing a special stamp in honour of the traditional Christmas market in Wienacht-Tobel. Information about the market can be found at www.wienachtsmarkt.ch.
There will be no sales stand at the event. You can send your items along with an addressed and franked reply envelope to the following address: Post CH Network Ltd, Cancellation Service, "Wienacht-Tobel", Werkstrasse 41, 3250 Lyss.

Deadline for domestic Christmas mail: 13 December 2023
Please enclose a pre-franked, self-addressed envelope so that unaddressed items for cancellation can be returned to you.



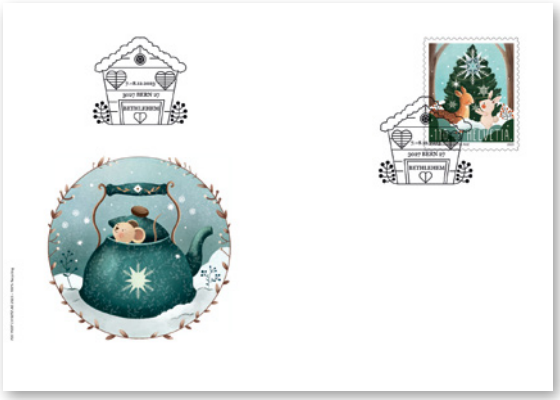
Wienacht-Tobel special cancellation

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Special covers			
Special cover C6, franked with the "Christmas tree" special stamp at CHF 1.10 and cancelled with the special cancellation "9405 Wienacht-Tobel 2.12.2023"		A489 991	2.00
Unstamped special cover C6	A489 992		0.90
The special covers are not supplied with the subscription.			

Bethlehem Christmas branch

Date: 7–8 December 2023
Place: Christmas chalet in front of the Bern-Bethlehem Swiss Post branch, Fellerstrasse 28, 3027 Bern
Getting there: Tram no. 8 to the Tscharnergut stop
Opening times: Thursday, 7.12.2023, 9 a.m. to 12 noon / 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, 8.12.2023, 9 a.m. to 12 noon / 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

We're delighted that the new Christmas chalet will be opening its doors in front of the Bern Bethlehem branch this year! To send your Christmas mail with the "Bethlehem" Christmas cancellation, bring your letters to Bern-Bethlehem during the sales stand's opening hours or send your Christmas mail franked with valid stamps (no express consignments) directly to the following address: Post CH Network Ltd, Cancellation Service, "Bethlehem", Werkstrasse 41, 3250 Lyss.
Find out more about the Christmas branch in Bethlehem at **swisspost.ch/stamps**.



Deadline for domestic Christmas mail: 13 December 2023
Please enclose a pre-franked, self-addressed envelope so that unaddressed items for cancellation can be returned to you.

Bethlehem special cancellation

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Special covers			
Special cover C6, franked with the "Christmas tree" special stamp at CHF 1.10 and cancelled with the special cancellation "3027 Bern 27 Bethlehem 7–8.12.2023"		A489 141	2.00
Unstamped special cover C6	A489 142		0.90
The special covers are not supplied with the subscription.			

Multilateral product

Multilateral set

With this year's multilateral Christmas product, you will receive 17 original stamps from Liechtenstein, Austria, Germany, Luxembourg and Switzerland. The joint stamp issue is only available in German.

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Multilateral Christmas set			
Multilateral Christmas set with 17 stamps from 5 countries; item available in German only	A489 990		29.40
This product is not supplied with the subscription.			

There may be delays to the shipping of this product. However, other products in the same order will be delivered on time.

New: Christmas stamps by subscription

Christmas stamps are not only perfect for your holiday greetings, they also add a sense of festive cheer to the rest of your letters. They are now also available by subscription, which means that you can get the latest designs easily and automatically every year and surprise your loved ones with your mail. You specify your preferred face value and the number of sheets you require (1 sheet = 10 stamps). More information about the various subscriptions at: **swisspost.ch/stamp-subscriptions**

Miniature sheet

Typical Swiss countryside – Tectonic Arena Sardona

It's been 10 years since the first stamp on this subject: the series has previously featured highlights from the Bernese Oberland, the Appenzell region and Ticino. The new design takes us to a UNESCO World Heritage Site that uncovers the history of the Earth in a unique way.

The border area of the Cantons of St. Gallen, Glarus and Graubünden is the location of one of the most primordial Alpine landscapes in Europe – the Tectonic Arena Sardona, which has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2008. The remarkable thing about the area is the horizontal line running along the mountain peaks around Piz Sardona. The rock above the so-called "magic line" is older than the rock below it, when it should normally be the other way round. So are these mountains upside down?

This phenomenon, which until recently was known among scientists as the "Glarus thrust", is explained by the history of the formation of the Alps: when the continents of Europe and Africa collided, 250 to 300 million-year-old rock met with a much younger substance. This produced a huge thrust that's better seen in the Tectonic Arena Sardona than anywhere else in the world.

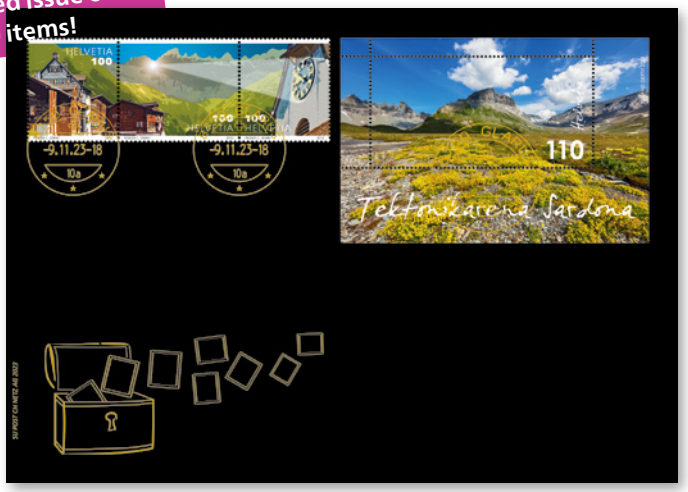
This unique insight into the history of the Earth attracts researchers in the fields of geology and tectonics, as well as school visits and hiking enthusiasts. Another attraction is the Martinsloch, a 17-metre-high rock window on the Grosses Tschingelhorn mountain summit. Twice a year, in spring and autumn, this is the scene of quite a spectacle: for a few minutes, the sun shines through the Martinsloch "window" directly onto the church in Elm. This autumn, this natural spectacle can be seen on 30 September at 9.32 a.m. and on 1 October at 9.33 a.m.

Maximum card set

Miniature sheet on first-day cover E6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 2.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last Branches: from 9.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 9.11.2023
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Cartor Security Printers, Meaucé-La Loupe, France
Sizes	Stamp: 71 ×38 mm Miniature sheet: 105×70 mm Miniature sheet with a stamp
Paper	White stamp paper, with optical brightener, matt-gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	13 ½ : 13 ½
Design	Roland Gerth, Thal

Limited issue of 1,500 items!



Special cover

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Miniature sheet	A484 315	A484 815	1.10
Covers			
Miniature sheet on first-day cover E6		A484 580	2.10
Unstamped cover C6 (162 × 114 mm) E6 (200 × 140 mm)	 A484 700 A484 701		 0.90 1.00
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A484 640	A484 650	1.90
Maximum card set			
Set of 7 unfranked A6 picture postcards with stamps affixed and cancelled on the front (face value: CHF 10.10)		A484 441	19.90
This product is not supplied with the subscription. Order limit of 10 items.			
Special cover			
Series (3 stamps, face value: CHF 4.10) on C5 special cover		A484 990	12.90
This product is not supplied with the subscription. Order limit of 10 items.			

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Scan the stamps with the Post-App

Mickey

Minnie

100 years Disney

Disney celebrates 100 years! Its world-famous characters have enchanted generations, making them laugh and sing. In its anniversary year, Disney is paying tribute to fans and creative artists who have made this dream possible over the past century.

Who doesn't know the original stars of Disney? Mickey and Minnie are among the most famous cartoon characters ever. Since their first appearance in 1928 in the cartoon "Steamboat Willie", the highly entertaining characters with round ears and colourful shoes have captured hearts all over the world, becoming icons of popular culture. For the creation of Mickey Mouse, Walt Disney received an Academy Award® in 1932 – marking the beginning of an unparalleled career.

But it all got off to a rather unspectacular start. Working with his brother Roy O. Disney in his uncle's garage in Los Angeles, the talented artist produced short animated films. Soon afterwards, the two siblings went on to establish the Disney Brothers Cartoon Studio on 16 October 1923 – now regarded as the day on which The Walt Disney Company was founded. In 1937, Disney used technical innovations to create "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs", the first feature-length animated film. Successful family classics followed, including "Dumbo" (1941), "Bambi" (1942), "Cinderella" (1950), "The Jungle Book" (1967), "The Little Mermaid" (1989) and "The Lion King" (1994).

In this anniversary year, Disney and its fans are celebrating the much-loved characters and stories of the past 100 years. We'd like to add our own Happy Birthday!

Special sheet of 2 stamps

Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 2.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last Branches: from 9.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 9.11.2023
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 28×33 mm Sheet: 100×228 mm (open), 100 ×114 mm (folded), 5 rows of 2 stamps
Paper	White stamp paper, with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²
Perforation	Serpentine cut (4 sides)
Design	© Disney, Zurich

Disney and Switzerland

In 1958, during shooting of "Third Man on the Mountain", Walt Disney travelled to the town of Zermatt, where he had the idea for the "Matterhorn Bobsleds" rollercoasters, which are now at Disneyland in California.

Château de Chillon on the shore of Lake Geneva served as the inspiration for Prince Eric's castle in "The Little Mermaid".

Unique opportunity to win

Have you always wanted to be able to draw like a Disney illustrator? You could be one of five people who receives a unique opportunity to learn how from a Disney luminary. Win one of five exclusive places in a workshop with Ulrich Schröder and a Disney+ gift card for six months. Find out more about the date and content of the course and how to take part at **swisspost.ch/stamps**. The closing date for entries is 26 November 2023.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A505 150	A505 550	2.20
Set of blocks of four	A505 160	A505 560	8.80
Sheet of 10 stamps 1.10 Mickey 1.10 Minnie	 A505 361 A505 362	 A505 381 A505 382	 11.00 11.00
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A505 580	3.10
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A505 600	4.00
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A505 630	10.60
Unstamped cover C6	A505 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A505 640	A505 650	3.00
Special sheet			
"100 Years Disney" special sheet with 1x Mickey at CHF 1.10 and 1x Minnie at CHF 1.10	A505 990		2.20
This product is not supplied with the subscription.			

Miniature sheet
with surcharge

Stamp Day 2023 Eschenbach LU

To mark this year's Stamp Day, the Lucerne National Stamp Exhibition (LUNABA) will be held from 16 to 18 November. The miniature sheet dedicated to the event shows Eschenbach Abbey, a landmark in the host municipality.

LUNABA is organized by the Lucerne Philately Society. Among the attractions at the three-day stamp event are a dealer's exchange, around 100 collections, activities for young people and Swiss Post's cancellation service. Desirée Möschl, designer of the Stamp Day miniature sheet, will also be there for an autograph session. The graphic artist from Lucerne, who has an attachment to philately, knew from the outset that Eschenbach Abbey, as a landmark of the town, would play an important role in the design. A visit to the Cistercian abbey inspired her: "I found the reflection of the abbey, seen in a window from the outside, particularly fitting. Because it could be the perspective of various different people – like a sister, a tourist or someone local." Besides the domes of the abbey, the reflection also shows the surrounding mountain landscape. Next to it is a magnificent sundial adorning the ruins, one of the largest of its kind in Switzerland. "Taking my lead from the cantonal coat of arms, I opted for blue and white for my design," says Möschl, explaining her choice of colours.

Postal card

Lucerne Philately Society

Founded in 1888 and with 110 members, the society is one of Switzerland's oldest stamp associations. It has numerous past exhibitions to its name – the first in 1947.

Miniature sheet on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 2.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last Branches: from 9.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 9.11.2023
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Gutenberg AG, Schaan, Principality of Liechtenstein
Sizes	Stamp: 27.5×32.4 mm Miniature sheet: 131×51 mm
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, matt gummed, 110 gm²
Perforation	11 ¾ : 11 ¾
Design	Desirée Möschl, Hofstatt

LUNABA stamp exhibition, level II

Place: Turnhalle Neuheim, 6274 Eschenbach LU
(Lindenfeld bus stop)

Opening times of exhibition, stamp exchange and sales stand with cancellation service
Thursday, 16 November 2023, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Friday, 17 November 2023, 9.30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Saturday, 18 November 2023, 9.30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Swiss Post will run a sales stand with a cancellation service. The special cancellation depicted here will be used. Individual documents can also be sent to the following address by 16 November:
Post CH Network Ltd, Retail Logistics, Cancellation Service, "TdBM2023",
Werkstrasse 41, 3250 Lyss, Switzerland.

Special cancellation

Autograph session
Desirée Möschl, designer of the miniature sheet, will be signing her works on Saturday, 18 November 2023 from 10 a.m to 11.30 a.m.

You can find more information at lunaba.ch.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Special sheet with surcharge	A488 315	A488 815	1.65
Covers			
Miniature sheet on first-day cover C6		A488 580	2.55
Cover without miniature sheet C6	A488 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A488 640	A488 650	2.45
Postal card			
Pre-franked A6 picture postcard, face value: CHF 1.10+0.55	A488 841	A488 846	2.65

Pro Juventute – Cohesion

Improving lives together: the new "Pro Juventute" stamps show that sticking together in times of crisis brightens up cloudy days.

Children

Young people

The coronavirus pandemic, war in Ukraine, climate crisis and the threat of inflation – global events are overlapping. A multicrisis of this kind can raise anxiety levels and have a major psychological impact on young people, as also shown by studies and figures on Pro Juventute's counselling services: for example, counselling on the issue of anxiety increased by 30 percent last year. Consultations concerning thoughts of suicide have now doubled compared to the period before the pandemic. Pro Juventute provides young people and parents with direct support, and calls on policymakers to promote support services and preventative measures. The design shows we can make lives better if we demonstrate cohesion. The children and young people featured on the stamps are making dark days brighter, together painting a colourful future where the clouds have cleared and the sun is shining again.

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Set	A487 150	A487 550	3.00
Set of blocks of four	A487 160	A487 560	12.00
Sheet of 10 stamps 0.90+0.45 Children 1.10+0.55 Young people	 A487 361 A487 362	 A487 381 A487 382	 13.50 16.50
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A487 580	3.90
Single stamp on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A487 600	4.80
Block of four on first-day cover C6 (2 covers)		A487 630	13.80
Unstamped cover C6	A487 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A487 640	A487 650	3.80
Stamp booklet			
6 self-adhesive stamps at CHF 0.90+0.45 with the "Children" design and 6 self-adhesive stamps at CHF 1.10+0.55 with the "Young people" design	A487 300	A487 800	18.00

Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 2.11.2023 to 30.6.2024 or while stocks last Branches: from 9.11.2023 to 30.6.2024 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 9.11.2023
Printing	Offset, 4-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 28×33 mm Sheet: 82×228 mm (open), 82×114 mm (folded), 5 rows of 2 stamps Stamp booklet: 86 × 62 mm (folded)
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²
Perforation	13½:13¼
Design	Stephan Schmitz, Zurich

Special stamp

Confetti

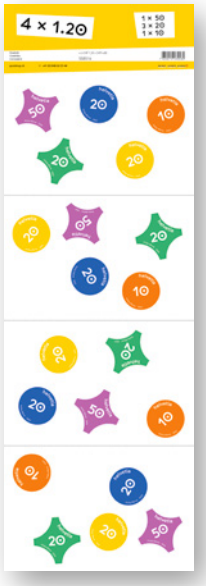
A party atmosphere on your envelopes! Whether for invitations or congratulations, these colourful special stamps lend themselves to creative franking, putting a smile on the face of the person they're addressed to even before they open their mail.

Whether in the middle of the carnival procession, at a wedding or on New Year's Eve, when the party bombs let brightly coloured shreds of paper rain down: wherever colourful confetti is found, a celebration usually isn't too far away. The word confetti comes from the Italian "confetto", or "confetti" in the plural. Roughly translated, it means sugar-coated treats. For example, gifts of sugar-glazed almonds – called "confetti" – are traditionally given in Italy to celebrate births or weddings.

Like the relaxed mood at celebrations, the new special stamps make it a breeze to frank party invitations or congratulations. As if thrown and landing randomly, the decorative confetti turns an everyday activity into a playful moment.

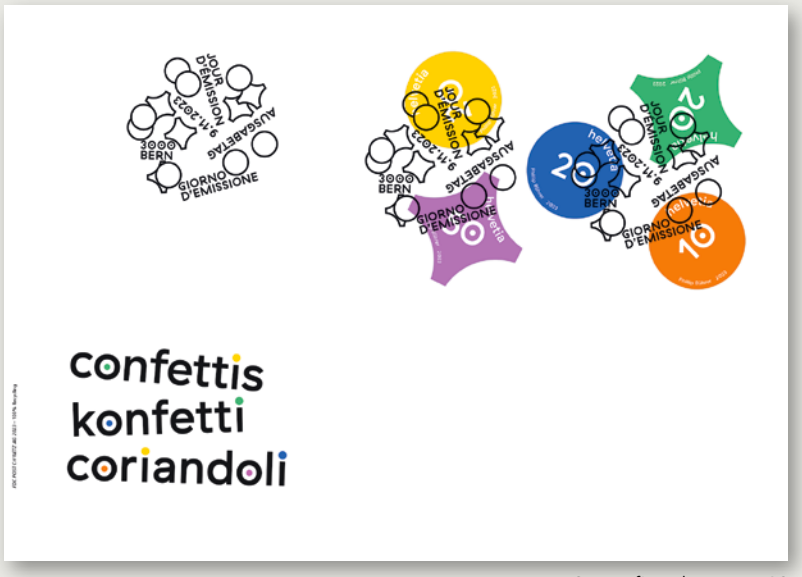
Five decorative pieces of confetti combine to make up the new A Mail value, which will come into effect from 1.1.2024. But why wait? You can use them right away to make your mail pop!

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch



Sheet of 4 sets with 5 pieces of confetti

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Stamps			
Series (1 set of 5 pieces of confetti)	A485 150	A485 550	1.20
Sheet of 4 sets with 5 pieces of confetti	A485 361	A485 381	4.80
Covers			
Set on first-day cover C6		A485 580	2.10
Unstamped cover C6	A485 700		0.90
Folder/collection sheet			
A5	A485 640	A485 650	2.00



Set on first-day cover C6

Technical information	
Sales	Philately: from 2.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last Branches: from 9.11.2023 to 31.12.2024 or while stocks last
Validity	Unlimited from 9.11.2023
Printing	Offset, 5-colour; Joh. Enschedé, Haarlem, Netherlands
Sizes	Stamps: 101×67 mm Sheet: 101×303 mm (open), 101×102 mm (folded), 4 rows of 5 pieces of confetti
Paper	White stamp paper with optical brightener, self-adhesive, on backing paper, 196 gm²
Perforation	Contour cut
Design	Phillip Bührer, St. Gallen

Review of the year in stamps

A book full of little works of art: year after year, the year book brings together the latest stamps in an impressive image editorial, telling the background stories to the latest issues.

Even in the age of digitization, stamps are still of far greater importance to us than their monetary value would suggest. They tell of events, values and achievements and pay tribute to Swiss nature or significant and outstanding figures. The year book documents these multifaceted stories and visual worlds, making it a unique memento.

Running to 120 pages, the 2023 year book presents 51 original stamps, each inserted with care. The many illustrations reveal a play between the stamp designs and surprising presentations. They are by Attila Janes, occasionally supplemented with illustrations by Christoph Frei.

The ideal gift for stamp enthusiasts, design aficionados and history buffs, or for children as a chronicle of the year of their birth.

The ideal gift!

Tamara Janes, who also works under her alter ego Attila Janes, has received this year's Swiss Design Award for her work "Copyright Swap" – congratulations! Every year, the Federal Office of Cultural Affairs (FOC) awards this Swiss design prize to outstanding works. The awards were presented in June. All nominated works were also exhibited during Art Basel. **Find out more now!**

Artistic framework

As was the case last year, an artist was once again invited to create a visual framework for the latest issue of the year book. Attila Janes, the alter ego of artist Tamara Janes, responded by showing everyday objects in a new light.

Attila Janes, how did you come up with the visual world for the year book?
To begin with, I sketched out my ideas for images, defining visual parameters such as background colours and illustration. The focus was on collected everyday objects. My archive includes 12 boxes of objects at this point – they're part of my trademark style.

How did you bring your image ideas to life?
It's always a challenge to turn a sketch into a photo. For the stamp marking the Disney anniversary, I originally wanted to use 100 lighted candles. But by the time I'd lit the last one, the first ones had already burned out, and the foam cake had melted. So I had to improvise: very exciting things often happen by chance.

What fascinates you about the medium of photography?
Photos enable us to focus on things that seem unremarkable. With a new perspective, everyday objects suddenly appear completely different.

The design for the Pro Juventute theme resembles a scene from a play.
© Attila Janes

A successful setting requires a great deal of work.
© Attila Janes

Order using an order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Year book of Swiss stamps 2023	A491 830	A491 831	CHF 89.00

Stamp journey through Europe

Pack your bags, and let's set off on a journey of knowledge: in the current issue, Phila and Franco look into the question of what exactly EUROPA stamps are. And the trump card of the set: everything you need to know about Jass – plus seven stamps to collect or send.

In the section containing information for collectors, Phila and Franco take us on a journey through Europe, dipping into the world of EUROPA stamps and discovering what these coveted collector's designs are all about.

Back in Switzerland, our two friends drop into Swiss Post's mail clinic, where they patch up torn envelopes or complete partial postcodes to make sure that mail that has gone astray can continue on its journey to its letter box.

Once in a while, loose items that have fallen out of their parcel or envelope end up at the clinic – calling for a bit of detective work.

When it comes to fun for collectors, the current set includes seven stamps worth 8.50 francs, featuring designs with colourful confetti, animals in the city, typical Swiss landscapes and Jass cards. Speaking of which: there are 25 Phila & Franco Jass card games to be won in a prize draw. If you've never played Jass before, you'll find instructions in this issue. Once again, there are also three postcards to colour in, as well as an idea on how to make your own stamp.

The stamp set for children is available at postshop.ch and all Swiss Post branches as a single issue for 12 francs or at a discounted rate on subscription at **swisspost.ch/stamp-subscriptions**.

Contains six stamps valid for postage and one cancelled stamp.

Technical information	
Length	20 pages
Contents	Six stamps valid for postage, one cancelled stamp, three postcards to colour in
Topics	Stamp collecting, Jass, writing, comic, postal service knowledge, arts and crafts, competition
Face values included	CHF 8.50
Publication	Four times a year
Suitable for	Girls and boys between the ages of seven and ten
Subscription	swisspost.ch/stamp-subscriptions or +41 848 66 55 44

Product	Item no.	Price in CHF
Stamp set for children		
German	A517 901	12.00
French	A517 902	12.00
Italian	A517 903	12.00
Phila & Franco		
Safari sticker sheet Contains 13 stickers	A445 901	2.50
Safari stationery folder. Contains 10 sheets of paper and envelopes	A446 902	12.00

Colourful stamps

Issue set with single stamps 4/2023

Issue set with first-day covers (FDC) 4/2023

Annual and special products	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Issue set with single stamps 4/2023			
The single stamps and sets in the 4/2023 issue are displayed on a free A5 backing card and protected with cellophane wrapping.	A490 150	A490 550	17.35
Issue set with first-day covers (FDC) 4/2023			
The first-day covers with single stamps and sets in the 4/2023 issue are combined in one free cover.		A490 580	22.85
2023 year book			
Representing a valuable record of our times, the year book presents all Swiss stamps and first-day cancellations for 2023, along with an exclusive black print, on over 100 pages in four languages (de/fr/it/en). The "J. R. R. Tolkien 1892–1973" stamps are not included.	A491 830	A491 831	89.00
2023 year set			
All Swiss stamps for 2023, clearly laid out on four handy display cards with transparent protective sleeve. The "J. R. R. Tolkien 1892–1973" stamps are not included.	A492 320	A492 820	75.25
2023 year set with first-day covers (FDC)			
All first-day covers in 2023 – including the single stamps, sets or miniature sheets with the respective first-day cancellations. The covers with the "J. R. R. Tolkien 1892–1973" stamps are not included.		A492 530	109.15

2024 stamp catalogue	Item no.	Price in CHF
Zumstein		
Switzerland/Liechtenstein/UN Geneva 2024, German/French	A481 725	35.00
Swiss stamp catalogue		
Switzerland 2024 German/French	A481 787	27.00
The stamp catalogues can be delivered in Switzerland and Liechtenstein only.		

Must-have of 2023

The ideal gift!

Culture meets art:
51 original stamps and creative photos will take you on a journey through 2023. Get your copy of the exclusive year book of Swiss stamps.

Available now in your nearest branch and at postshop.ch/yearbook

Swiss Crypto Stamp

Exclusive!
Supplement on
Swiss Crypto Stamp

In this supplement, you will find:
- Swiss Crypto Stamp 3.0 retrospective
- Manfred Affolter profile
- "St Bernard" special cover

Dear Reader

A few months have gone by since Swiss Crypto Stamp 3.0 was issued, so it's time to reflect on the past and look ahead to the future. Following the successful launches of the Swiss Crypto Stamp in the last two years, Swiss Post issued the third generation, Swiss Crypto Stamp 3.0, on 2 May 2023. The rare versions of Walter and his St Bernard pack sold out fast.
The versions still currently available can be ordered at postshop.ch and in Swiss Post branches.

13 unique special editions of the Swiss Crypto Stamp 3.0 were also auctioned exclusively on Ricardo between 15 and 22 June 2023 as part of #RicardoForGood. The auctions were a complete success.
In total, 124,115 francs in donations were raised! All proceeds went to digitalswitzerland to support the #Biodiversity Digital Academy and the NextGen initiative, as well as to the Barry Foundation.

© liliana lafranchi photography
Nicole Burth, Swiss Post and Stefan Metzger, digitalswitzerland at the donation handover

Mani Affolter from Bern has acquired no fewer than 12 special editions for a good cause. We met up with him for a chat. Read more on the next page.

As a special highlight for you, we have put together a "St Bernard" special cover, consisting of the special stamps "2,000 years Great St Bernard" and "Souvenirs – St Bernard" and the Swiss Crypto Stamp 3.0 "Walter".

You can order the special cover (which is limited to 1,500 items) with ease via the order form enclosed with "Focus on stamps" or at postshop.ch.

And what's next? Preparations for Swiss Crypto Stamp 4.0 are underway. Get ready for a surprise! Keep checking **swisspost.ch/crypto-stamp** for more information, or register on the website for the crypto stamp newsletter.

We hope you enjoy discovering the Swiss Crypto Stamp world

Swiss Post

Mani’s stamps: moments of happiness

Mani Affolter bought 12 of 13 special editions of the Swiss Crypto Stamp 3.0 at auction. We invited him to a photo shoot and met a happy man. His stamp albums are his treasure trove of memories. Now he is proud to own a philatelic speciality in the special editions of the Swiss Crypto Stamp 3.0 and to have done something good at the same time.

“Irgendeinisch fingt ds Glück eim,” sings Kuno Lauener from the band Züri West – you will find happiness at some point. Mani found happiness late in life. Kuno Lauener probably didn’t have him in mind when he wrote his song. But he is happy.

Mani, who hails from Bern, sits on the sofa and leafs through his stamp albums. A journey of thoughts through his life. Small pictures with perforated edges that evoke associations with events and journeys. Geography was his favourite subject at school. Stamps have been important to him since he was six years old. They ground him. He loves stamp collecting, enjoying the inner peace of designing a new maximum card, the search for the right postcard, the excitement of having stamps cancelled in a certain post office at a certain time. Repdigits are his specialist subject, along with geography and sport.

“Stamps remind me of situations and events in my life. They made me want to discover the world.”

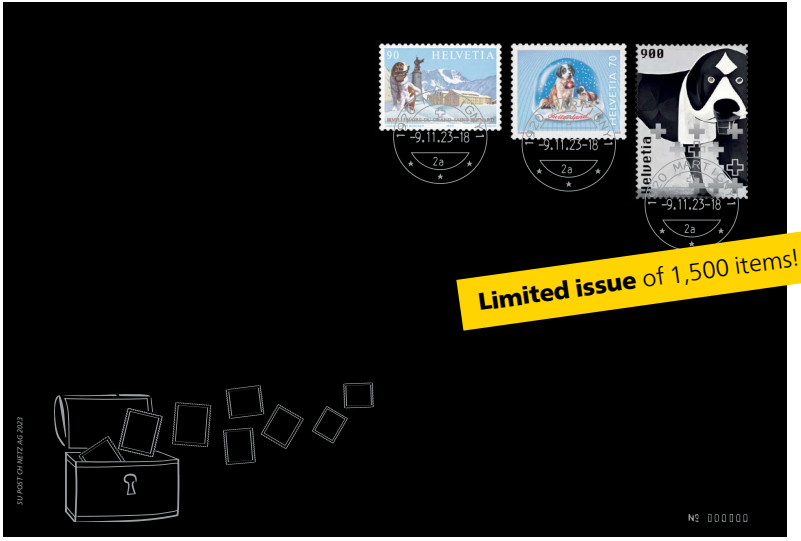
And sparked his curiosity. Although Mani is already 66 years old and a retired SBB counter employee, he is by no means an old-school collector and is open to new things. That’s why he has almost all the Swiss Crypto Stamps in his collection, as well as a veritable treasure trove in his safe. He is thrilled that he can scan the QR code on the stamp and see the matching NFT immediately appear on his smartphone, although he also explains straight away that he does not want to trade with Crypto Stamps. He doesn’t understand all of that. He is just happy to have got hold of 12 exclusive special editions, each of which is only available once, in a Ricardo auction. Looking at him, it is easy to imagine the boy who stuck his first Pro Juventute stamps in his album and pressed the philatelic treasure to his chest.

© Urs Graber

Mani Affolter

Keep on reading to find out how and when Mani caught crypto stamp fever, what else makes him happy in life and what he especially likes about his hobby of philately: swisspost.ch/crypto-stamp

“St Bernard” special cover



“St Bernard” special cover

Order using the “Focus on stamps” order form or at postshop.ch

Product	Mint	Cancelled	Price in CHF
Special cover			
Single stamps on special cover C5		A499990	19.90
This product is not supplied with the subscription. Order limit of 10 items.			